

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of storing an animal food, cat litter, or animal bedding the method comprising:

providing a container wherein the container includes a top wall, bottom wall and sidewall and wherein the sidewall is flexible and is in a collapsed state;

distending the sidewall to a substantially taut position, the sidewall being supported by a spring disposed therein; ~~and~~

storing animal feed within the distended container; and

providing a removable moisture barrier within the container;

removing the moisture barrier when the moisture barrier needs to be cleaned.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

placing the container after being emptied of animal feed back into a collapsed state.

3.(Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the container is collapsed by pressing down on the sidewall against the spring force.

4.(Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the container is retained in the collapsed state by a fastening mechanism attached to an edge of the bottom wall and to a top edge of the sidewall.

5.(Currently amended) A method of storing animal feed wherein different feed formulations are fed to a plurality of animals, the method comprising:

providing a plurality of containers wherein the containers each include a top wall, bottom wall and sidewall wherein the sidewall is flexible and in a collapsed state;

distending the sidewall to a substantially taut position wherein the
sidewall is supported by a spring disposed therein;
placing animal feed within the distended container; and
providing a removable moisture barrier within the container;
removing the moisture barrier when the moisture barrier needs to be
cleaned.

6.(Original) The method of claim 5 and further comprising:
feeding the animals the animal feed; and
placing the containers which are emptied of feed back into the collapsed
position.

7.(Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the containers are placed in the
collapsed position by pressing down on the sidewall against the spring force and
engaging a mechanism to hold the containers in a collapsed state for storage
until the containers are needed to feed the animals once again.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 and storing the containers
wherein the containers are retained in the collapsed state by a fastening
mechanism attached to an edge of the bottom wall and to a top edge of the
sidewall.

9. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the moisture barrier is removably
attached by a hook and loop fastener system.

10. (New) The method of claim 1 and securing the top to the sidewall using
a zipper.

11. (New) The method of claim 5 wherein the moisture barrier is removably
attached by a hook and loop fastener system.

12. (New) The method of claim 5 and securing the top to the sidewall using a zipper.